

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TITLE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	CLASS	ATTORNEY	DOCKET NO.
09/358,272	09/20/99	MORANDU	J		M J ATTORNEY	

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QM61/0111

NGUYEN, N EXAMINER

374 ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

01/11/00

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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11/11/00

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.
09/398,272

Applicant(s)
Morando

Examiner
Ninh Nguyen

Group Art Unit
3745



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to the preliminary amendment dated 11/24/99.

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 35-41 and 46.

☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 5.

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Charles Chandler, Reg. No. 24,290 on 01/07/00.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

In claim 46:

On line 3, right in front of "housing", --pump-- has been added.

On line 8, right after "the drive element;", the following has been added:

--an overhead support structure;

leg means disposed between the pump housing and the overhead support structure, comprising:

a steel alloy leg having an upper end and a lower end, the leg having a sufficient compressive strength to prevent the pump housing from rising in the molten metal;

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means for connecting the leg to the overhead support structure;

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cont a tubular shield means enclosing at least a portion of the leg, and being formed of a material resistant to the heat of molten metal; and

the tubular shield means having a lower end attached to the pump housing, and an internal bore having a diameter greater than the diameter of the leg to accommodate the leg's thermal expansion caused by the heat in the molten metal;/-

The above changes were made to render the claim allowable.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Ninh Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0061. The examiner can be normally reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look, can be reached at (703) 308-1044. The fax number for this group is (703) 305-3588.

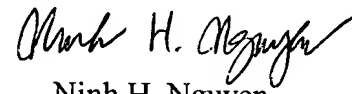
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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.



Ninh H. Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3745

nhn
January 7, 2000